Heritage Resources

Introduction

The Superior National Forest's Heritage Program personnel consist of a Heritage Program Manager/Forest Historian, two Archaeologists, two Archaeological Technicians and seasonal Archaeological Technicians. Archaeologists/Archaeological Technicians working for the Forest typically have a six-month field season from May through October and sometimes into November. Due to the size of the forest, crews are often out in the forest from four to eight days at a time. Modes of travel include hiking, motor boating, canoeing, and occasionally by plane, with foot travel and canoeing being the primary means. The remainder of the year is typically spent in the office. Below are some photos that capture representative field work (including survey, excavation, and historic preservation), public outreach, and the types of artifacts we find.

Heritage Survey



Archaeologists canoeing to job site in early morning fog



Shovel testing project area



Archaeologist screening material from shovel test



Archaeologists recording historic homestead with GPS

Excavation



FS Archaeologist excavating a unit at an archaeological site

Typical excavation site

Waters Canoe Area Wilderness



Excavating an archaeological site in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness

Historic Preservation



FS Archaeologist and Wood Products Laboratory scientist testing for wood rot on historic structure



FS Archaeologist notching logs on historic structure



FS Archaeologists shaping log for installation

Public Outreach



Group of students observing Passport In Time volunteers excavating archaeological site

Passport In Time volunteers working with FS archaeologists on historic structure rehabilitation



FS Archaeological Technician demonstrating flint-knapping to group of students

Artifacts



Seed beads from Fur Trade era



Laurel rimsherd: ca. 2100 – 1300 years ago



Paleo and Archaic projectile points from archaeological site on Forest



Double-bit axe heads from early logging, ca. 1920s



Lantern frame from early logging camp, ca. 1905